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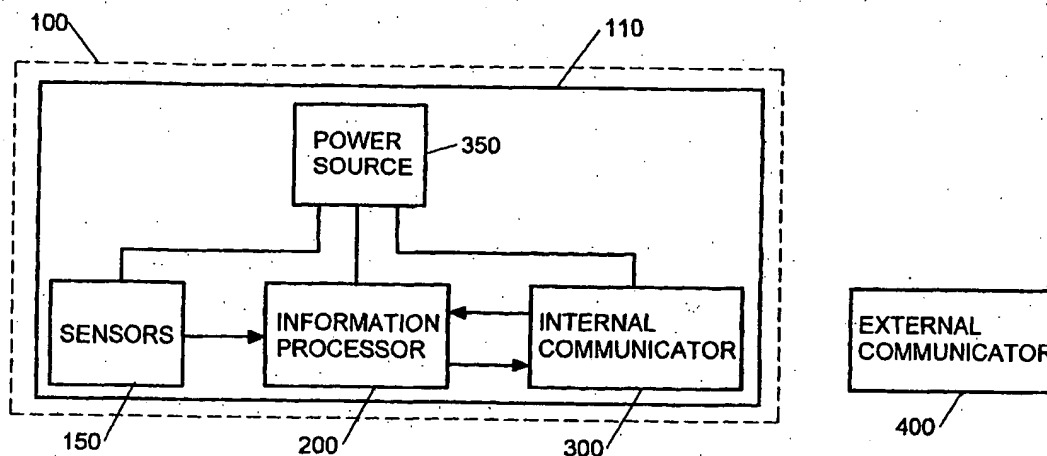
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR OBTAINING DATA FOR PROCESS OPERATION, OPTIMIZATION, MONI-
TORING, AND CONTROL



(57) Abstract: Data are collected for deriving response models and information required for developing and maintaining processes and process tools. Methods and apparatus for collecting the data include a sensor apparatus (100) capable of collecting data with less perturbation and fewer disruptions than is usually possible using standard methods. The sensor apparatus is capable of being loaded into a process tool. From within the process tool, one embodiment of the sensor apparatus is capable of measuring data, processing data, storing data, and transmitting data. The sensor apparatus has capabilities for near real time data collection and communication.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 01/26315

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G05B19/418

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G05B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 389 769 A (YAMASHITA TEPPEI ET AL) 14 February 1995 (1995-02-14) the whole document	1,2,5, 7-27, 32-35
X	DE 43 27 342 A (AEG SENSORSYSTEME GMBH) 23 February 1995 (1995-02-23) the whole document	1,2,5, 7-27, 32-35 4,6
Y	US 5 526 293 A (MOZUMDER PURNENDU K ET AL) 11 June 1996 (1996-06-11) abstract	4
Y	EP 0 337 669 A (RENISHAW PLC) 18 October 1989 (1989-10-18) abstract	6

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☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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